

## REPORT

CD NO.

DATE OF INFORMATION 1949

DATE DIST. / Jun 1949

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE Serbo-Croatian

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## OVERLOADED TELEPHONE SYSTEM NEEDS IMPROVEMENTS

**BELGRADE TELEPHONE SYSTEM OVERLOADED --** Politika, No 13213, 16 Apr 49

Recently, the main telephone exchange in Belgrade has been so busy, especially during the morning hours, that it is often impossible to put through urgent long-distance business calls. The switchboard was built to accommodate 8,000-9,000 calls per hour. However, statistics show that 15,000-17,000 calls per hour are being made during business hours, especially between 0800 and 1000. In 1959, not more than 12,000-15,000 calls were ever made in one hour.

Most of the calls that clog the lines are personal, unnecessary, and unreasonably long.

Unnecessary long-distance calls to certain towns that do not have direct telephone connections with Belgrade also overload the lines. When a subscriber in Belgrade calls, for example, the coal mine in Banovici, he is connected with the exchange in Tuzla, which has connection with Banovici. However, if the Tuzla-Banovici line is busy, connection is made through the exchange in Doboj. When after long ringing, reminding, and urging, a free line to the mine in Banovici is obtained, the line to Belgrade may be busy.

DIAL TELEPHONES TO BE INSTALLED IN KOSMET -- Glas, No 1186, 18 Apr 49

Dial telephone exchanges are to be installed this year in Pristina, the capital of the Kosmet, and in Kosovska Mitrovica.

During the first 2 years of the Five-Year Plan, Pristina has been connected by direct telephone lines with several srez, and direct lines to all the other srez in the Kosmet are to be installed in the near future. Thus far 20 percent of the local People's Councils [in the Kosmet] have been connected by telephone lines with their srez seats.

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After dial systems are installed at Pristina and Kosovska Mitrovica, the speed of telephone communications will be increased threefold, and the capacity for simultaneous conversations will be increased 50 percent. Dial exchanges are now being installed at Pristina.

Long-distance dial telephone service is planned for the future.

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- 2 -

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